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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/776,834	02/11/2004	Alexander Burinskiy	100-24200 (P05758)	3018
33402	7590	08/05/2005	EXAMINER	
LAW OFFICES OF MARK C. PICKERING P.O. BOX 300 PETALUMA, CA 94953			TON, MY TRANG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2816	

DATE MAILED: 08/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/776,834

Applicant(s)

BURINSKIY ET AL.

Examiner

My-Trang N. Ton

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 May 2005.  
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-21 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☒ Claim(s) 2-15 is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 16-18 is/are rejected.  
7) ☒ Claim(s) 19-21 is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

  
**MY-TRANG NUTON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Barnes (U.S Patent No. 6,369,632).

Barnes discloses in fig. 1 a level shifting flip-flop (1) including:

a level shifting circuit (42, 10, 11, 20, 21, 31, 51-56) having an input (30), an inverted output (14), and a non-inverted output (15), a logic high (HIGH) at the input (30) having a first voltage, a logic high (HIGH) at the inverted output (14) having a second voltage, a logic high (HIGH) at the non-inverted output (15) having the second voltage, the second voltage being greater than the first voltage (col. 4, lines 63-65 teaches the first and second voltage being differs (i.e,  $V1 > V2$  or  $V2 > V1$ ), thus, the limitation “the second voltage being greater than the first voltage” is inherently met.

and a pull down circuit (58, 57) connected to the level shifting circuit (42, 10, 11, 20, 21, 31, 51-56) that sinks current from the inverted output (14) when the level shifting circuit (42, 10, 11, 20, 21, 31, 51-56) sinks current from the inverted output (14), and from the non-inverted output (15) when the level shifting circuit (42, 10, 11, 20, 21, 31, 51-56) sinks current from the non-inverted output (15) as recited in claim 16.

Regarding claim 17: element 57 reads on a first transistor and element 58 reads on the second transistor isolated from the inverted output (transistor 58 is not connected to 14).

Regarding claim 18: element 11 reads on a pull down transistor, the second transistor (58) being connected to the pull down transistor (11, via ground 45, 48).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 2-15 are allowable over the prior art of record. None of the prior art disclosed or suggested to show the particular structure and/or the particular operation recited in these claims namely: “fifth – seventh transistors” in combination with “an inverter” and “first –fourth transistors” as recited in claim 2; “fourth transistor pulling down an intermediate voltage ... turning on a fifth transistor that pulls down the output voltage on the inverting output node” in combination with “first – third transistors” as recited in claim 14.

Claims 19-21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. None of the prior art disclosed or suggested to show the particular structure and/or the particular operation recited in these claims namely: “third – fourth transistors” as recited in claim 19.

***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

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§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to My-Trang N. Ton whose telephone number is 571-272-1754. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 a.m - 5:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on 571-272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



My-Trang N. Ton  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2816

August 2, 2005